

Joint Committee on Judiciary

Legislative Office Building

300 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Opposition to HB 6355; An Act Concerning Risk Protection Orders or Warrants.

Dear Committee:

I am a resident of Stratford, CT and wish to voice my opposition to HB 6355. Expanding the pool of complainants to include “family or Household members and health care providers” will expose law abiding Connecticut gunowners to increasing cases of fraudulent claims and deny their right to due process. The burden of proof is unfairly left for the subject of the complaint to prove. Confiscating lawfully owned personal property from a citizen who has broken no law, just because a family member or health care provider thinks they MAY cause imminent personal injury to themselves or someone else is a significant overreach.

Expanding the circle of complainants to include family/household members and health care providers exposes the process (and law abiding gun owner) to personal vendettas. “Threatened use of physical force” and “abuse of alcohol” are two conditions that could be met by a recovering alcoholic 16 years sober who threatens his roommate with a bloody lip unless the roommate pays his 3 months of back rent.

The efficacy of this law is not measured in terms of the number of suicides prevented but in rather the number of lawfully owned and registered firearms confiscated from their law abiding owners. If suicide prevention was really the aim of this law then ALL types of deadly weapons would be removed from the possession of the subject of the RPO.

Sincerely,

Frank Arciuolo

Stratford, CT

